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IN NORTH CAROLINA

THE INDEPENDENT

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Would Bore Holes in Hyde County To Let The Water Run Out

Vertical Drainage Proposed For The Drying Up of The Wettest County in North Caro- lina—Sounds Fantastic, but it Has Been Done

By FEN DIXON McNEILL

Much is said by the proposed miracle that may or may not be worked by the new proprietors of the New Holland Corporation at Lake Mattamuskeet, other citizens of this richest and poorest of counties, the work, and the uprear of trying to make a former sheriff drainage taxes that may never have been collected, have had time to take thought of another and equally incredible necromancy having to do with the drying up of the earth to the end that Mr. Gardner's words by at-home campaign may have fruitful ground in which to either.

Large amounts of surplus water in the county be directed to the south, power, glory, efficiency and abundance of the new proprietors of the Lake. When on the surface, the water would run precipitately in hill and out themselves into a system of canals, relieving the soil of the water, and the necessity of summering the water out of their lake. Such a system of nature would be possible, and it is now, when the water is in a state of flood.

By the miracle, colossal as it might be, become a pale and minor work of unimpaired husbandry, and this week, when it is compared with the newer miracle, the water in Hyde County, which has been known to be in the ground and at the water run out of the county. The miracle as practiced elsewhere has been designated as "vertical drainage." When installed in Hyde, it will be called vertical drainage.

Like all great ideas, the idea of vertical drainage is simplicity itself. Water, as everybody knows, will run out a hole in the floor, if you see the hole. Here is water in Hyde that might run out if you asked it to run up hill. So why not bore a hole in the ground and let the water run out through the hole?

Mr. Mann, professor observing a professor, watching the kitchen floor, he thought that would make a hole there. He consulted engineers, Mr. Berriman came down and he discussed boring holes at various points about the county. Some attempts were drilled, and water did run down into them.

Dr. Watson S. Rankin, director of the hospital section of the Duke Endowment, plans to come to Elizabeth City about March 1, after the architect's plans and estimates are completed and in his hands. Duke funds to complete the purchase of the hospital will not be made available until after Dr. Rankin's visit.

MYSTERY NOTE IN GRAND JURY PAPER CLEARED

"We strongly recommend that the Board of County Commissioners and the Solicitor insist upon one of our officials making his deposits at the time designated by law. This has been brought to their attention and should be promptly attended to."

The foregoing mysterious item appeared in the report of the grand jury in the Superior Court of Pasquotank County this week. Last all county officials come under suspicion, it should be stated that the official referred to is J. C. Spence, Register of Deeds. The grand jury omitted his name because they believed him guilty of only a technical violation of the law and didn't want to embarrass him.

The law requires county officials to make daily bank deposits of all collections made by their offices. Few officials observe the letter of the law. Mr. Spence has been peculiarly lax, permitting months to elapse without depositing his collections. The Register of Deeds handles comparatively little money, all in small fees that amount to only about \$5,000 a year. The Register of Deeds is bonded for \$5,000. Mr. Spence has held the office of Register of Deeds for a total of eight terms and has never failed to settle with the County Auditor; but he has been lax in depositing his collections according to law and there is a discrepancy of several hundred dollars in the amount of his collections and his bank balance.

SHE WOULD BE LONELY WITHOUT THIS PAPER

"I enclose find renewal of my subscription," writes Mrs. Jean Sawyer, of Snowden, N. C., who goes on to say: "I sure do enjoy reading The Independent; I look for its coming as I would for a visitor. I read everything in it and would be lonely without it. You may use this in your paper if you like."

Police Search For Deserter of Family

Police of this city are attempting to locate one J. E. Phelps, formerly connected with the Pasquotank Motor Co. Phelps left Elizabeth City about three weeks ago, in the company of two other young men, leaving no word as to where he was going. He left his wife and a child here.

Local police have sent his description to police departments in cities all over the country in an attempt to locate the young man who is wanted for desertion. The police think he went to a Southern station which they are unable to get extradition papers.

Bootleggers Get All The Lucky Breaks

Fortune today smiles more brightly upon the bootlegger than upon any other class of persons, or so it seems. Blackwell Barkley, for several years Elizabeth City's leading bootlegger, was found guilty in Superior Court last fall on a charge of attempting to bribe Chief of Police Leon R. Holmes. The Supreme Court this week quashed the indictment against Barkley.

When the case was tried, both C. E. Sanders, Sr. and C. E. Sanders Jr. had been summoned for jury duty. The name of C. E. Sanders was called to serve on the jury that heard the Barkley case, but the younger Sanders answered the call. The defense moved to quash the indictment on the grounds that the jury was illegally constituted. Judge N. A. Sinclair ruled that both jurors had been summoned for that particular term of court and that neither of them had been chosen to serve especially the first or second week of court. He said that both were duly sworn jurors and that it made no difference which of them served the first week and which the second week. The case was tried, Barkley was found guilty, Judge Sinclair sentenced him to serve from two to three years in State's Prison.

The Supreme Court held that Judge Sinclair should have quashed the indictment. So, at present, young Barkley is free. However, it is understood that he still is under \$1,000 bond, for the grand jury at the next criminal term of Superior Court here can bring another indictment against him on the same charge.

Woman's Club Wages Fight On Illiteracy

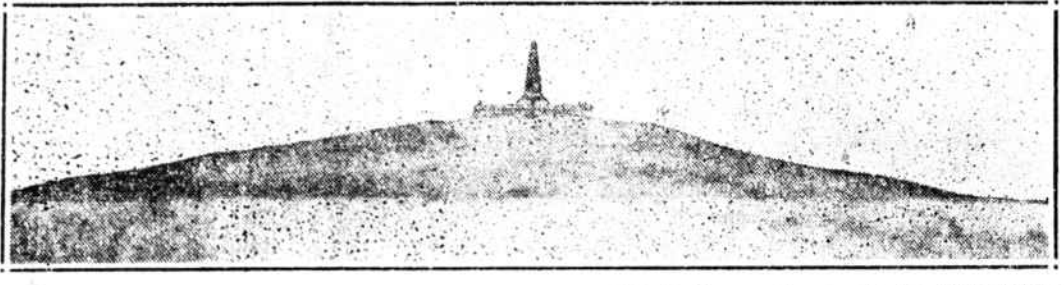
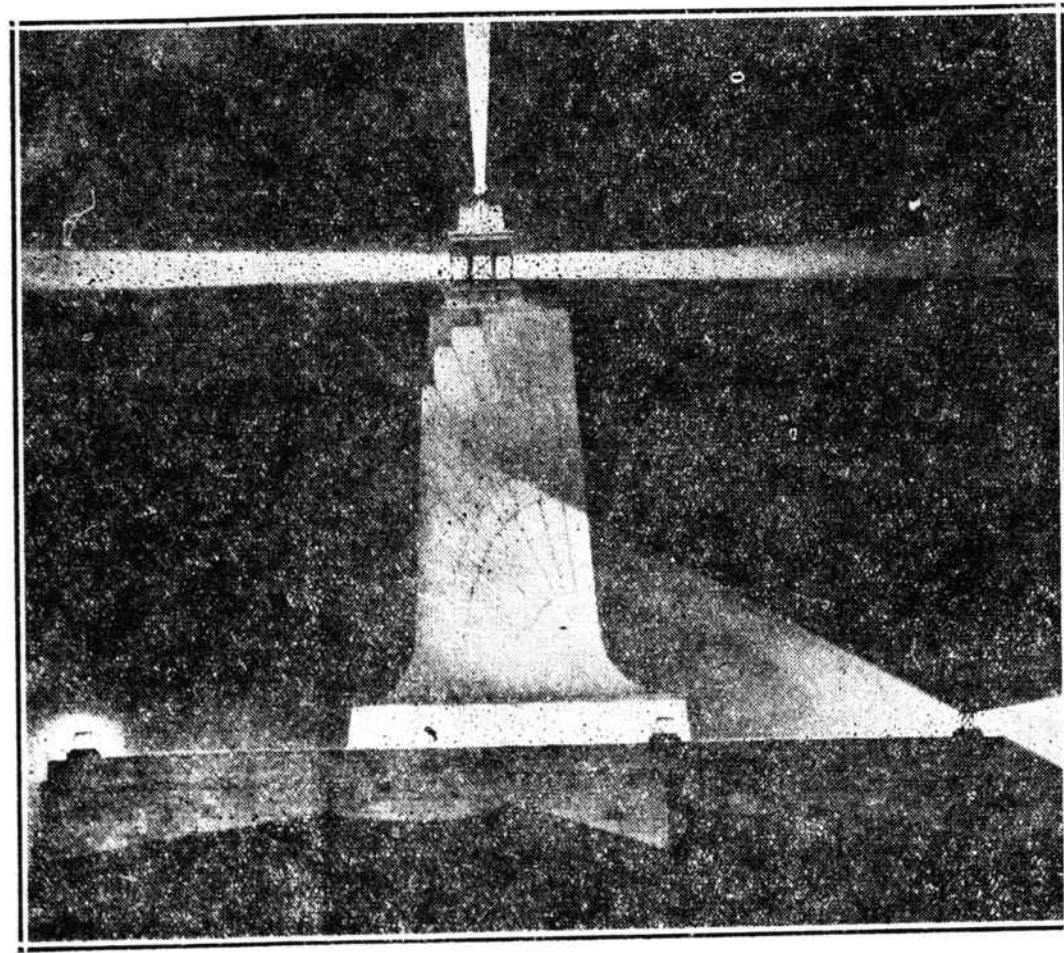
Taking up the fight that is being waged against illiteracy throuout the State, the Elizabeth City Woman's Club is conducting a night school for the training of illiterate persons who work during the day.

The classes are being held in the high school building on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights. So far there are 35 pupils enrolled, these ranging in age from 14 to 70 years. Some of these can not even read and write their names. Most of them work in the mills and either have had no previous educational opportunities or forsook their education to go to work.

The teachers are Mrs. J. G. Fearling, Mrs. Preston Basnett and Miss Sallie Bessley. They are greatly handicapped in their work because of the fact that each and every one of their pupils requires individual attention. With an increase in enrollment expected, they are broadcasting an appeal for another teacher to assist them in their work.

The whole nervous system of the human body is affected by eye strain. Let us correct your eyes. DR. J. D. HATHAWAY, Optometrist Carolina Bank Bldg. adv.

First Showing of the Proposed Wright Memorial For Kill Devil Hill



HERE then are the first pictures of the proposed Wright Memorial for Kill Devil Hill, from photographs of the architect's sketches approved last week by the Joint committee on Library of the House of Representatives. The architects, Robt. P. Rodgers and Alfred E. Poor of New York will receive an award of \$5,000 for the design. The monument will cost \$238,000. The material specified in the plans is cement, but Congressman Warren is working now to have this changed to North Carolina granite. The monument will be 55 to 85 feet high. A government reservation of 500 acres provided by the Kill Devil Hills Memorial Association will be utilized for an airport. Congressman Warren believes that the appropriation for the monument will be made within the next few weeks.

The Wright Memorial will be one of the notable memorials in America, comparable in beauty and historic interest to the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, Grant's Tomb and Stone Mountain. Permission to make first use of the picture shown here was granted this newspaper because of its notable work in behalf of the memorial. To Congressman Lind-

JOHN C. JAMES A CANDIDATE FOR LEG'LATURE

J. Kenyon Wilson, for six years Representative of Pasquotank County in the N. C. General Assembly will have formidable opposition in the coming Primary election. John C. James, of Wecksville, one of the best known and most successful farmers and business men in Pasquotank County will oppose him.

"I have been persuaded to announce myself a candidate for the Legislature because Mr. Wilson hasn't the point of view of the farmer and small business man; he is first of all a corporation lawyer and there is an uneasy feeling that corporation lawyers in control of our Legislature are not giving us a square deal. I do not impugn their honesty, but it goes without saying that it is the most natural thing in the world for a man to be loyal to his employers."

Mr. James is 57 years old, a native and resident of Salem Township. He was for 20 years secretary of the Wecksville Ginning Co., and has been active manager of the company for the past four years. The Wecksville Ginning Co. is one of the oldest and most successful business enterprises in Pasquotank County outside Elizabeth City.

Mr. James is not inexperienced in politics; he was for 18 months road overseer in his township; he was for two and a half years a member of the County Board of Education. He resigned from the Board of Education to serve as a County Commissioner and was on the Board of Commissioner for seven years. He has a fair understanding of most of all county departments and county problems. As a County Commissioner he was most highly regarded.

"The nominal compensation allowed a member of the General Assembly makes the office unattractive to any one except a lawyer," says Mr. James, "but it happens

say Warren of the First Congressional District of North Carolina belongs full credit for the passage of the Wright Memorial Bill in Congress.

The great shaft gives the impression of giant wings uplifted as if for a take-off flight from the crest of the great hill. This effect is heightened at night by flood lights projected from the five points of a star shaped base upon the four sides of the monument. A beacon tower projects an upward beam of light for the guidance of aviators and powerful horizontal beams for the guidance of ships at sea.



"Do you reckon this London naval parley will result in the abolition of battleships?" asked the Soda Jerker.

"Hell, no!" exclaimed the Bank Clerk. "I have seen so much ebullience, hypocrisy and bunk in international relations that I have learned to expect nothing much to come out of any international parley of big power diplomats."

"We have 18 battleships, which is two more than Great Britain and eight more than Japan; they cost us 40 million dollars a year to keep up and it would cost 20 million dollars apiece to replace them. And the whole business aren't worth a hurrain in hell in this age of submarines and airplanes."

"One airplane costing \$50,000 could sink every battleship we have afloat; a battleship in this year 1930 of the Lord of Battles, is the most glorified pile of junk afloat. Their guns have a range of only 10 to 15 miles and they couldn't get within a hundred miles of any important coast line to-day before they would be bombed from above, torpedoed from below or sent to Davey Jones' locker by a submarine mine."

"Well, why do we hang onto them?" asked the Soda Jerker.

"For two reasons, mainly," replied the Bank Clerk. "One is the steel trust; the other is the naval clique. The building of a battleship means millions for the steel mills and ship yards and when completed it makes a beautiful floating palace and a

playing for some high muck-a-muck in the Navy. And so every time you talk about scrapping a battleship, the naval officers and the steel makers unite and pull the wires to save their bacon. The steel trust supplies the cash and the naval experts supply the bunk, and the two powerful and influential groups working together convince their political friends that the battleship must be saved."

"And so that's the way it works, is it?" gasped the Soda Jerker in wide-eyed amazement.

"Yes, replied the Bank Clerk, "and it is the way almost everything else works in this dollarized America. And, having looked into the officers' quarters on one of these steel monsters, and seen how high those boys live, I'm telling you that if I were commander of a battleship, I'd spent my last breath shooting propaganda for battleships. Why, Herbert Hoover took a trip to South America on one of them before he entered office as president, and one of the first things he did after his inauguration was to dispose of the presidential yacht, Mayflower. Having had a taste of the grandeur and glory of such a domicile with a thousand blue-jacketed male servants to kow-toe to him, even the plain old-fashioned Hoover could never feel at home on a mere yacht any more. Your naval officers are determined to save the battleship; it's the softest berth in the war game."

A GOOD SPORT

Joseph P. Knapp of Mackay Island continues to exemplify good citizenship. A few weeks ago he let it be known that he would breed mallard ducks to help replenish the game supply; now he offers the State a fish hatchery for the propagation of black bass. He is a good sport indeed who will provide his own kind of game and catch of fish.

INDEPENDENT GROCERS SUSPECT UNFAIRNESS

Grocers Caught Selling Bootleg Fruit Want to Know Why A. & P. Stores Are Not Molested

Prominent Elizabeth Citizens would not believe their ears if they were told that the grapefruit they had for breakfast may have been purchased from a bootlegger, but that is the startling fact recently disclosed. A new kind of bootlegger, the citrus fruit bootlegger, has been discovered here. And in this matter of bootleg fruit the local independent grocers, having long nourished a natural and secret grudge against the chain stores, found a chance to take a crack at the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company.

A Good Citizen Looking West



JOSEPH HOLDER ETHERIDGE, one of the oldest and outstanding citizens of Bertie county, now 80 years old, is confined to his room by failing health and does not expect to live. Until recently he was a frequent visitor to Elizabeth City. He is an uncle of S. G. Etheridge and Mrs. W. A. Worth of this city. The ancestors of Mr. Etheridge were early settlers in Bertie county; it was his family that named the town of Coleraine, after the Coltraine Islands off the coast of England. He was a farmer, fisherman, merchant and active in the social and political life of his country. A graduate of Trinity College, he was a class mate of Senator Blanton. He helped to found two Methodist churches in Bertie; was a reformer who once cleaned up his town by jailing his rowdies, first having to build a jail to put the rowdies in. He helped to found Bertie's oldest newspaper and for several years an editor of the Windsor Ledger. He was always a widely read, interesting and highly social human.

This sterilized fruit has a peculiar chemical taste and is not at all popular. Dealers found that the customer not sell this gassed fruit, their customers demanding fresh fruit in its natural state. So the fruit dealer were tempted to do just as man did when the 18th Amendment was passed—they were tempted to bootleg. And much contraband fruit found its way into the Southern States.

SQUEALER AND SPY FIGURE IN COURT CASES

The two most important cases in the Criminal term of Superior Court here this week were cases in which the defendants were betrayed by alleged partners-in-crime. The first case, that of the State against Sherrick Jackson, Albert Hettrick and Will Colson, resulted in conviction; the second case, that of the State against Buster Evans, Negro, and Dave Melton, white, resulted in acquittal because of insufficient evidence.

Jackson, and Hettrick, were found guilty last fall of stealing 22 turkeys from a Pasquotank farmer. Colson pleaded guilty to the same charge. Thurman C. Smith, who was with Colson when the latter was apprehended as he was crossing Campostella bridge going into Norfolk with the stolen turkeys, was a hiring of the local police and it was his evidence that convicted the defendants. Colson, because of his past record and his leadership in the foray, was sentenced to serve not less than 12 nor more than 15 months in the State penitentiary. Jackson and Hettrick received sentences of from nine to twelve months in prison. The case took all the first day of a two-day term of court and the jury was out overnight before it rendered the verdict of guilty.

In the other case, Evans and Melton were charged with manslaughter in connection with the death on August 31, 1926, of William H. Ellis, who was run over and killed near Wecksville. Melton turned State's evidence and the case against him was not pressed. The prosecution then attempted to convict the Negro Evans, but Judge M. V. Barnhill directed that he be acquitted of the charge because of insufficient evidence.

What the local independent grocers want to know is: "Why was our unstamped fruit seized by the government inspector when right now boxes of Florida citrus fruit bear (Continued on Page Two)